

RAIN GREET'S FIRST VISITORS, BUT FAILS TO DAMPEN SPIRITS

Estimated 25,000 People Arrived Yesterday—Unless Weather Conditions Are Unfavorable 420,000 Will Attend Encampment.

The first of the G. A. R. visitors to reach Washington for the grand encampment were greeted with a drizzling rain, which steadily increased as the night wore on into a steady downpour. Though weary, the most of them, from long and tedious journeys, the veterans were light-hearted, and felt again the magic touch of youth as they trod the streets of the Capital, which forty years ago they defended. Some decorations suffered considerably from the rain, but the welcome accorded to the veterans was as cordial as if bright skies and balmy weather had attended the reception.

Within the next forty-eight hours the population of Washington will be temporarily more than doubled. Already the vanguard of the vast army of peace, the veterans of '61 and their sons and daughters, are beginning to arrive and pitch their tents. It is estimated that upward of 25,000 people came into Washington yesterday and last night to attend the encampment of the Grand Army. This number is but a little more than one-twentieth of the total number of visitors estimated by careful calculation who are coming here.

It was figured yesterday by the railroad officials and the well-informed members of the public comfort committee, of which Mr. M. L. Weller is chairman, that about 420,000 people will be brought to Washington by reason of the encampment. There will, however, it is expected, be a falling off of from fifty to seventy-five thousand people in case the weather continues bad. This is the experience which the railroads and transportation companies have had in the past, and is the basis of the estimate.

Rain Has Little Influence.

Those who will be kept away by inclement weather will be chiefly persons residing in nearby States, who will be influenced by local weather conditions, and who, by reason of their accessibility to Washington, will not be as much disappointed as persons coming from afar. Those people who live at a distance will have made arrangements to come will be here regardless of the actions of Jupiter Pluvius or any of the other weather gods.

Mr. Barry Bulkley, the secretary of the citizens' executive committee, was informed last night by Mr. Colin Stus, the general passenger agent for the Pennsylvania road, and Mr. S. B. Hege, occupying the same office with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, that the traffic pressure upon these two transportation lines was without precedent. Never before have they been obliged to turn away passengers for want of accommodations, but such is now the case, although the roads are making every possible effort to bring all those who desire to come.

No considerable movement of passenger traffic was anticipated until Sunday morning, but travel begun to be heavy yesterday and no cessation is looked for until the middle of the week. An example of the thousands who are now pouring into Washington is afforded by the experience of the Pennsylvania train leaving Chicago yesterday morning and scheduled to arrive here at 5:30 o'clock this morning. It is now moving on to Washington in thirty-six sections, with an average of nine cars to each section. It will bring upward of 20,000 people, who will be coming in all day.

Another instance is offered by the Chesapeake and Ohio train leaving Cincinnati Friday night, and which came in yesterday afternoon. It ran eleven sections, and a total of 114 cars, bringing in about 7,000 people. The Baltimore and Ohio trains are having a similar experience.

Freight Is Sidelined.

So great is the traffic that the Western lines are finding it necessary to sidetrack all freight, and very little freight, save that which is perishable, will be moved until after the Grand Army encampment is over. Freight going out from Washington ceased last night, and none will be moved until after the encampment is over, and almost none will come into Washington, unless it be some absolutely needed by reason of the big crowds and some that is perishable.

The Baltimore and Ohio road has had 500 cars contracted for, the Pennsylvania about 400, and the Chesapeake and Ohio about 250, and these cars will begin coming in this morning. The crowds coming in now, and those which came yesterday, are now included in those estimated as coming on the cars for which contracts have been made. From reports now at hand the indications are that there will be between 55,000 and 60,000 veterans, with about 10,000 members of allied women's organizations.

The experience of the roads in the past has been that the proportion of persons outside of the Grand Army who take advantage of the low rates to veterans is as six to one. Therefore, figuring that there will be 60,000 old soldiers, they estimate that there will be 360,000, or a total of 420,000 visitors.

Pennsylvania expects to send upward of 60,000 visitors; Illinois, 25,000, and other States according to their population and proximity to Washington. A majority of those who came in yesterday and are en route today are from distant points. The influx from nearby places will not begin until Monday.

Accommodations for All.

For all of these the public comfort committee will provide accommodations. A subcommittee, in charge of Mr. Farnsworth, has taken the lower waiting room at the Baltimore and Ohio and established a bureau of information and guidance there to assist visitors in obtaining quarters. Another branch of the same committee, under Mr. A. B. Coppes, has headquarters in a tent on the reservation opposite the Pennsylvania depot. Other divisions of the committee will be stationed, beginning today, at the steamboat wharves.

TODAY'S PROGRAM FOR THE VISITING VETERANS

11 a. m.—Religious exercises in all the churches of the city, to which the visiting veterans and their friends are cordially invited.

General Torrance and staff will attend the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church.

3 p. m.—Religious exercises in Grant tent, Camp Roosevelt, conducted by the committee on religious exercises.

7:30 p. m.—Religious exercises in Grant tent, under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Mass meeting at Convention Hall, with distinguished speakers and the Marine Band.

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One hundred high school cadets familiar with the city will be on duty at the various depots and wharves to escort strangers to places where they may decide to establish themselves during their stay in Washington. The headquarters of the public comfort committee will remain open night and day until accommodations are provided for all who come.

All trains crossing the Long Bridge, and in case of necessity, by reason of the large traffic, will stop at Ninth Street and Maryland Avenue instead of running into the Sixth Street depot. On the Baltimore and Ohio all Western traffic and all through trains from New York to the West will be handled at the New York Avenue station. Trains from the East will come into the downtown station.

City Dons Brightest Robes.

Washington is donning her brightest regalia preparatory to receiving the blue uniformed veterans when they reach here this week. The city is attiring herself in her gayest garb, for the citizens are determined that there shall be nothing too good for the valiant hosts now returning to the Capital which they defended forty years ago.

Quite different is the appearance of Washington today from the Washington of 1865, when the victorious warriors passed in grand review up the historic thoroughfare which leads from the White House to the Capitol. Much improved, too, is the appearance of the city from what it was when the Grand Army held its encampment here ten years ago. Since that day many new and handsome buildings, both public and private, have been erected to beautify the Federal city and from each of these latter will float a mute welcome to the boys of '61, the veterans in 1902.

Government buildings are comparatively without decorations, and these alone will stand out naked and barren amid the other structures, draped in their brilliant colors and bidding greeting to all. Yesterday and the day before the work of exterior decoration progressed rapidly, and a thousand banners, flags, and streamers of red, white, and blue and variegated colors are this morning floating in the autumn breeze waving a mute but glorious welcome to the great army of peace about to invade the Nation's Capital.

No prettier spectacle is there to be witnessed anywhere than broad Pennsylvania Avenue ablaze with a profusion of color, its walks almost concealed beneath thousands of yards of bunting and drapery. The decoration is by no means completed, but there is this morning enough of the gala day appearance to indicate that when the toggings are all in place Washington will be a host fittingly attired to greet welcome visitors.

Profusion of National Colors.

Old Glory floats proudly above hundreds of roofs and miles of bunting are stretched from basement to eaves, covering nearly every downtown building, particularly in Pennsylvania Avenue, the thoroughfare through which the phalanx will march. When the decorating

TRUE ARMOR.

Proper Food Defends Against Disease.

There is an assayer and chemist in Rosita, Col., Mr. C. Wulsten, who shows by actual every day demonstration that scientific food will make a man young again. He says:

"The question of proper food which will assimilate and protect the system from loss and waste of brain and muscle, becomes a serious one when man advances to my age of past sixty-eight. I am continually under a brain and muscle strain, which for the last thirty-five years were upon me seriously. My digestion became impaired and my whole system weak."

"I saw Grape-Nuts in a grocery store and bought a box. I tested it in my laboratory and found it correct according to your declaration of its substance in proportion with the phosphates intact."

"I made it my principal food, and gained in one year eighteen pounds in weight, and had the pleasure of seeing my indignation leave me entirely. After a year and a half of its use, I feel twenty years younger, and am as strong and supple as I never was before during the last decade. I simply have found the true armor which is defending my body against disease and withering age."

"I find it of advantage in field work and when prospecting in the mountains. When I go out upon geodetic expeditions I take a quantity of Grape-Nuts along with me. This abolishes every-bodine's baggage and food cooking utensils. A little sugar, a can of condensed milk, my Grape-Nuts, and I have my food in a closely condensed form, not weighing over four pounds to carry, and I never get hungry. Concentrated agents are the most effective in all chemical operations, and Grape-Nuts are the reagents that keep the body's laboratory (the stomach) in perfect working order. Your product is perfect."

City Has Donned Its Best Attire and Is Ready With Extended Hand to Give Cordial Welcome to Its Valiant Guests.

is completed there will scarcely be a structure which will not bear evidence of the joy that citizens of Washington feel at the honor the coming encampment bestows upon them.

Streamers, stars, and rosettes are much in evidence, while here and there is the flag of another nation waving in harmony with the Stars and Stripes. Over the entrances to stores, business houses, and public places is inscribed the familiar word "Welcome." No place is too humble, too lowly, to hang a flag to the breeze or lift a banner, each giving testimony to the same sentiment.

Everywhere the G. A. R. design predominates; everywhere these familiar letters are seen, and there is harmony in all the myriads of flags, banners, and streamers. The noise of the hammer and the buzz of the saw mingled yesterday with the ordinary confusion of the street, indicating that the work of building stands and draping them appropriately is being pushed with all possible rapidity. Every branch of the entertainment being prepared for the visitors is in satisfactory condition, and the decorations simply betoken the fact that the finishing touches are now being placed, and that everything will be in readiness when the advance guard of the Grand Army of the Republic pitches its tent in the city where are no enemies, but where all are its friends.

Mecca for Old Soldiers.

While the committee on decorations has been unusually active, its main efforts seem to have been directed toward the Pension Building, which will likely be the Mecca for old soldiers all next week. Within the walls of the bureau thousands of claims repose. Survivors of the civil war, widows and orphans of those who participated in the great strife send their petitions for pensions to the bureau and it is there that so many hopes are unfulfilled, so many pathetic life stories told, and in some cases a heart made happy by the allowance of a claim.

Naturally the veterans will feel a stronger interest in the Pension Office building than in any of the other departments, and on Tuesday afternoon a large reception will be given to Gen. Ell Torrance, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army, and his staff. The hosts of the occasion will be Hon. Eugene F. Ware, Commissioner of Pensions, and the heads of his department.

The decorations are the most artistic and striking ever hung in the building, not excepting the several occasions when the inaugural balls have been given there. On entering the east or west doors one is greeted by a perfect blaze of the national colors. They hang from every conceivable nook and corner of the building. True to custom, on every occasion of note the Stars and Stripes form the most conspicuous feature of the city's decorations, but it is not too much to say that in the case of the decorations at the Pension Office they have been utilized more artistically and to better advantage than on any previous occasion for many years.

A Festooned Canopy.

Across the entire ceiling of the building streamers of solid red, white, and blue, in their regular order, are festooned to form a canopy. In this alone hundreds of yards of muslin have been employed. Along the railing of the second and third corridors around the four sides the decorator has draped flags as close together as harmony will permit.

These are so arranged that the blue ground of one meets that of the other as so forms a shield. This feature has never been displayed before in any local decoration. At intervals along the railing large flags have been hung, relieving the straight line formed by the smaller ones.

Not the least attractive part of the decorations are the large pillars, and about these groups of large silk flags are hung in candelabra effect. On the corridor pillars on the first floor are the coats of arms of the different States. The coat of arms proper are imitation of enamel on a background of dark blue silk with gilt lettering.

The reception stand has been erected on the south side of the rotunda. The stage is covered in green carpet and has a canopy of rich red and white. Back of the stage and suspended from the third floor is a drop curtain of light blue, on which are exhibited the different corps badges.

Over 650 flags have been used in decorating the Pension building, many of them being rich silk emblems. The War Department furnished over 100 storm garrison and post flags. The large banner which ordinarily hangs in the interior of the building is to be suspended from the front. Some difficulty is being encountered in locating the best position for the flag as it must be lighter in such a way as to defy a heavy wind.

WELCOME IS GIVEN GEN. ELL TORRANCE

Serenade at Ebbitt House by Washington Times Newsboys Band—Commander Addressed Boys.

Gen. Ell Torrance, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army, was tendered a serenade last night by the Washington Times Newsboys Band. In the midst of a heavy drizzle the little fellows marched up Pennsylvania Avenue to the Ebbitt House by way of Fifteenth Street and loudly proclaimed their presence and welcome to the commander in a stirring march.

General Torrance was greatly surprised when informed that the music was in his honor, and immediately insisted that the boys should be invited into the hotel. This was done and, standing in the main lobby, surrounded by a number of G. A. R. veterans and other guests of the house, the band rendered several selections of a patriotic character.

None of the auditors was more enthusiastic over the concert than the general and after each number he led in the applause. Business was suspended in the office and the band formed the center of attraction to an enthusiastic encampment crowd.

At the conclusion of the third selection General Torrance stepped into the midst of the boys and said:

Praises for the Boys.

"I want to say to you, boys, and to Mr. White, your director, that I cannot express my appreciation of this honor. Just a few minutes ago I told you that at the beginning of the present year not one of you knew a note of music, and I could scarcely believe it. In Minneapolis we have a newsboys band that is known as the Journal Band, and I consider them very fine musicians, but, of course, they have been playing for a long time. You, however, are just beginning, as it were, and I must say that you are not only abreast of the times but ahead of the times, for you are the first band to welcome the commander-in-chief of the Grand Army and his staff, and I want to assure you of our hearty appreciation of your efforts and courtesy and to wish you all the success in the world."

It was the first time that the youngsters had been addressed by so important a personage as General Torrance and their faces beamed. They seemed to appreciate the honor, too, of claiming the general's first speech of the encampment, and at a sign from Mr. White they struck up the stirring strains of "The Star-Spangled Banner" with all the enthusiasm and vim they could muster.

GEN. MILES TO THE G. A. R.

Expresses Regret at Inability to Meet Veterans

HIS VEIN IS REMINISCENT

Recalls the Faces of Lincoln and Generals of War Whose Memories Veterans Revere.

On the eve of his departure from the United States for the Philippine Islands, where he was sent by the War Department on a tour of inspection, Lieut. Gen. Nelson A. Miles wrote a letter, dated Portland, Ore., September 20, to Hon. B. H. Warner, chairman of the citizens' executive committee of the national encampment, G. A. R. The letter is in response to an invitation to be present and participate with his old comrades in the events of the encampment week.

General Miles speaks of his regret at not being able to be with the veterans, but rejoices in the fact that they are again able to assemble in the National Capital—at a time when the Capital is in danger, but when conditions of profound peace prevail. A beautiful tribute is paid to the valor and bravery of the veterans of the civil war, and the fact that animosities were buried when hostilities ceased is, he says, one of the chief glories of the memorable strife.

Deep Regret Is Expressed.

"I appreciate in the highest degree your cordial invitation to take part in the ceremonies at the coming encampment, and deeply regret that it will be impossible for me to be present during the celebration of the encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Washington, thus depriving me of the pleasure of meeting my comrades on that most eventful occasion."

"Long years of separation have not lessened the depth of our friendship, neither is the continent wide enough, nor will the Pacific be broad enough, to weaken the bonds of comradeship that were welded by the old camp fires amid the battle scenes of the great war. I rejoice that the veterans are again to assemble at the National Capital, not in the grim vesture of war, but during a condition of profound peace. It will recall to them the darkest hours of the country's history, when the war drums sounded and there came—

"From the hills of the East, from the plains of the West, Columbia's children, her noblest, and best."

"They gathered at a time when the National Capital was in danger; when the division of the country seemed inevitable; when the destruction of our Government was threatened, and a mighty host of brave, patriotic young men were marshaled into one grand army such as the world had never known before, and probably will never witness again. They demonstrated their willingness to sacrifice the brightest hopes and prospects of life. They encountered an army of Americans whose skill and bravery were unsurpassed."

Struggle Between Giants.

"It was a death struggle between giants, and for four long years campaigns were conducted and battles fought where the theater of war extended from the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic coast, and from the Rio Grande to the hills of Gettysburg. Bravely they fought, patiently they endured, exhibiting a tenacity never excelled, if ever equaled. The gloom of disaster, the great losses sustained in the fierce battles and destructive campaigns, never for a moment weakened their confidence nor lessened their fortitude. There were single hours in that war when their services were more important to this country and to mankind than those of a lifetime of others not so engaged."

"When the war flags were furled, when the bugles and drums sounded 'cessa firing,' when permanent peace had been proclaimed and imperishable glory achieved, their ranks had been thinned by the loss of hundreds of thousands of noble comrades, and there were but few veterans who were not wearing honorable battle scars."

"It was one of our chief glories that at the close of hostilities animosity was buried in the last ditch and supplanted by a spirit of magnanimity which has been solidified into bonds of union and friendship. The blessings achieved have been equally beneficial to all who were engaged in that great contest, and the participants on both sides have vied with each other in the work of upbuilding this nation to its present sphere—the mightiest republic of all times. Unionists and Confederates have touched shoulder to shoulder in maintaining the honor and character of our nation in peace and war."

No Sounds of Hostility.

"As the veterans gather in this celebration they will not hear the sound of hostile guns. The cheers of the people, the melody of patriotic music, the thunder of our artillery, will welcome them to the Capital they saved, to the seat of the Government they preserved."

"As they march again through the great avenues they will not see the care-worn, benevolent face of Lincoln, nor the sturdy faces of Grant, Sherman, Meade, Thomas, Sheridan, Hancock, and hundreds of thousands of their comrades who gave them encouragement year after year as they marched down to death as cheerfully as to a festival. They will now find what is soon destined to be the most beautiful capital in the world. They will see towering in midair the Goddess of Freedom over their National Capital. They will realize that Washington is indeed the capital of a nation that gives liberty and equality to eighty millions of people. They will, moreover, appreciate that their achievements have been of immeasurable benefit to the millions of people of other countries of the Western Hemisphere."

"The far-reaching and beneficent effect of what they accomplished by their valor and sacrifice is beyond comprehension, and can only be realized as the years roll on. While all that they hoped for, and more than they had a right to expect, has been achieved, there is still one important duty which they owe to themselves and to their children, and that is to be ever mindful during the remaining years that shall be granted us as comrades and citizens to maintain unimpaired the principles of our Government."

"I can conceive of no more imperative duty than that of preserving this great Republic and its institutions in the true spirit indicated by the Constitution, in the highest and broadest sense, and in transmitting, unimpaired, the blessings and immunities vouchsafed to us to those who shall take our places in the great future."

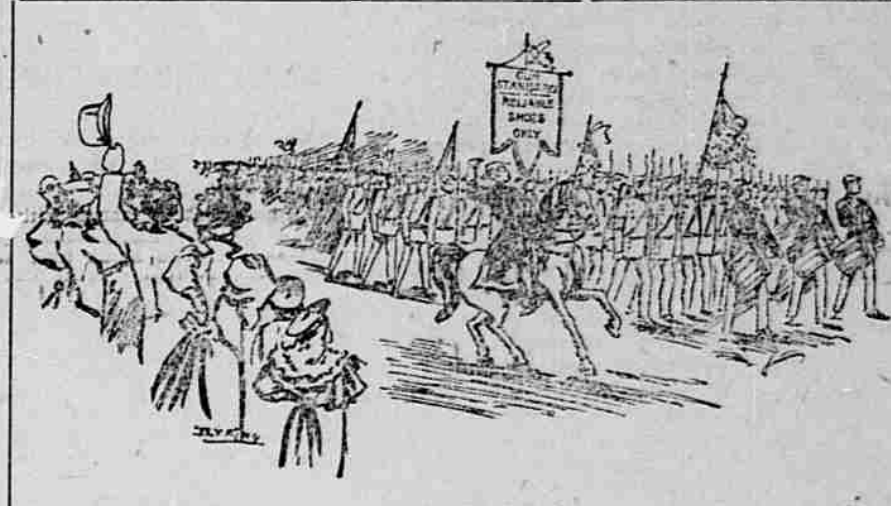
WILL CLOSE ON PARADE DAY.

John R. Young, clerk of the Supreme Court of the District, yesterday announced that his office will be closed next Wednesday on account of the veterans' parade.

POSTMASTERS NAMED.

The President yesterday appointed the following postmasters: Samuel Eden, Bourbon, Ind., and Fred H. Torrey, Groton, Mass.

FREE SOUVENIRS with Shoes during G. A. R. WEEK.



The Head of the Procession.

American soldiers nearly always "git there" by hard work and merit alone. It's the same with our leadership. From the very first we have worked for the shoe-wearer—pegging away to get the very best shoes that the smallest outlay could procure—constantly increasing the distance between Hahn's Shoes and others.

What's the result? Today we're reckoned among the very greatest of American shoe-retailers. Owning our three store buildings—financially interested in the making of many of our shoes—continually enlarging our great output—we buy shoes to the very best advantage, and sell them at the closest margin of profit.

Bring the visitors to Hahn's this week. They'll be interested—so will you—in these great G. A. R. week specials:

\$1.59 Child's Shoes This Week \$1.19	\$3 Women's Boots This Week \$2.35	\$3.50 Men's Shoes This Week \$2.65
1,500 pairs Girls' \$1.50 Soft, Stout Ebony Calf Winter Laced Shoes; sizes 12 to 6. Boys' \$1.50 Blizzard Calf, Extra Durable Laced Shoes; sizes 12 to 5½.	5 handsome styles of best #1 Hand-made, Extension Sole Laced Walking Boots, made of choice chamois box calf, French patent calf, vici kid, and box calf, single or double soles.	750 pairs Highest Grade Men's \$3.50 Hand-made Laced and Button Winter Shoes, made of French chamois leather, velour, and box calf or vici kid; 5 popular styles.

"W-L-MO-DAU-SIS" Women's Boots \$3 Are without an equal at the price for wear, beauty, and comfort. They have hand-sewed welted or turn soles—therefore are soft and easy to the foot. Made of vitale calf, kid, and silk-finished guaranteed aniline leather; 15 original, tasteful styles—enough variety to please all W-L-MO-SIS-ers, DAU-ghters, SIS-ters.	THE "PRIME" for Men and Women \$1.95 The "First" and "Best" medium priced Shoes for men or women—"PRIME" Shoes are regular \$2.50 values. By placing enormously large contracts for these Shoes we can afford to make a leader of them at \$1.95. They come in all the popular styles—and in all good leathers.
WOMEN'S "IDEAL" Boots \$1.50 Our "Ideal" are both in quality and style all a \$2 Shoe should be. We've sold tens of thousands of pairs of these without ever receiving any complaint. They're better this fall than they ever were, and much more shapely. 10 styles of laced and button, light or heavy soles.	MEN'S "TRI-WEAR" Famous Shoes. \$3.50 The hundreds of men who are regular wearers of our "TRI-WEAR" Shoes will tell you that there's nothing in shoedom to equal these for wear and comfort. We put the very best leather and workmanship into these Shoes that money will buy—that's why they give thrice the wear of other \$3.50 shoes. They come in the same styles as the highest grade \$5 and \$6 Shoes.

G. A. R. Week Small-Priced Specials.

12¢ Babies' Soft Sole Kid and Felt Moccasins.	19¢ Warm, Black Cloth Overgaiters, men's or women's.	25¢ Special 1st. Women's 50c Storm Rubbers.	48¢ Child's Spring Heel Kid Boots, 4 styles; sizes 5 to 8.	50¢ First quality Men's and Boys' Rubbers.
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There is a charm of style—an air of richness about the new Black Robes that is decidedly fascinating.

The various styles are beautifully designed—the foundation of the Robes being of All-silk Point d'Esprit with charming variations in the arrangement of the silk applique trimming.

Skirts, Waists, and Sleeves are generously cut and may be made up either for street or evening wear.

We've never offered a better bargain in Robes. The price,

\$21.50.

The New Fall Lines of Ladies' Suits, Neckwear, Dress Goods, Silks, Velvets, etc., Await Your Inspection.

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